

STATE OF WASHINGTON

Annual Progress and Services Report

Submitted June 2003

Section VIII

Independent Living Skills Program

Children's Administration
Department of Social and Health Services

INDEPENDENT LIVING SKILLS PROGRAM

<p>Section 477 (b)(2) Lead Agency</p>	<p>In Washington State, the Department of Social and Health Services, Children's Administration (CA) administers, supervises and oversees the Title IV-E program and the Chafee Foster Care Independence Program. CA has continued efforts to implement and improve the Chafee Independent Living Program. Community collaboration is a guiding force in our work with adolescents and their caregivers. Contact information for the CA program manager is as follows:</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Lori McDonald, Independent Living Program Manager Department of Social and Health Services Children's Administration Post Office Box 45710 Olympia, WA 98504-5710 (360) 902-8262 Phone (360) 902-7903 Fax mclo300@dshs.wa.gov</p>
<p>Section 477 (b)(2)(F)</p>	<p>The state of Washington agrees to continue to cooperate and participate in national evaluations of the effects of programs implemented to achieve the purposes of the Chafee Foster Care Independence Program. The Washington State Office of Children's Administration Research (OCAR) has just completed its second year of a three-year study called <u>Foster Youth in Transition</u>. The study is examining the characteristics of youth leaving public child welfare in Washington State, how prepared these youth are for emancipation and how the youth are doing after emancipation. The final results of the study will be available in 2004.</p>

<p>Section 477 (b)(2)(A)</p>	<p>ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND PROGRESS:</p>
<p>Section 477 (a)(1-5)</p>	<p>Help youth make the transition to self sufficiency</p> <p>The Washington State legislature established statutory authority to serve former foster youth ages 18 to 21 in June 2001. The Children's Administration immediately began implementing services to address the needs of this population. Services to former foster care youth are delivered via a contract amendment to the Independent Living contract. These contracted programs are known as <i>Transitional Living Programs (TLPs)</i>. Four TLPs were added in 2002 to the initial three programs, so that there are currently seven statewide. Service delivery to former foster care youth between the ages of 18 and 21 has increased by more than 100% since the establishment of the programs in 2001. These programs assist eligible youth in securing housing, employment, and employment-related training and education.</p>

All Chafee funds expended by the state for transition services to former foster youth are tracked separately and outcome measures for these programs are being developed.

In addition, Washington State passed the Homeless Prevention, Protection and Engagement Act (HOPE) in 1999 that established the Responsible Living Skills Program (RLSP). RLS programs are designed for youth, ages 16 to 18 in the custody of the State or Tribe. The programs provide long-term housing, assessment, and life skills training to youth who are state-dependent, who are not returning to their families, and who have been unsuccessful in traditional foster care. In the State fiscal year 2002, RLS programs served 75 youth, up from 52 youth in the programs first year of operation.

Help youth receive the education, training and services to obtain employment

Educational stability and achievement for children in foster care is an important aspect of insuring a successful transition to self-sufficiency. In 2002, the Children's Administration (CA) and the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) convened a workgroup to examine methods to improve school stability and achievement for children in foster care. Specific recommendations to improve practices in information sharing, educational advocacy and education planning resulted. Recommendation implementation is underway. For example, a number of education stability and achievement pilot projects are in place around the state, an education improvement oversight committee has been established, and school based foster home recruitment is being explored. Of course, CA attempts to maintain children in their schools of origin upon entry into the child welfare system.

Education improvement, pilot projects were first initiated in 2002 using the extension of available Chafee funds from year 2000. The projects included tutoring services, educational advocacy, vocational training, youth development activities, and community volunteer projects. Approximately 160 youth benefited from these services. Graduation ceremonies for 2002 high school graduates and GED recipients were also held in all six of the Division of Children and Family Service regions in Washington State. In addition, school supplies were purchased for 350 youth for the 2002/2003 school year.

Help youth prepare for and enter post-secondary training and educational institutions

In 2001, Governor Gary Locke instituted a golf tournament to raise funds for scholarships for foster youth to attend higher education institutions. The program awarded 18 scholarships to foster youth who graduated from high school in 2002. The scholarships can fund four years of tuition towards a baccalaureate degree.

It is expected that 25 scholarships will be awarded to foster youth that graduate from high school in 2003. Chafee transition funds assist with housing costs and books for the scholars.

Contracted IL providers continue to prepare and mentor foster youth ages 16 to 18 to complete high school or a GED program, and enter vocational training or higher education institutions.

Provide personal and emotional support to youth through mentors and the promotion of interaction with dedicated adults

Mentoring of youth is a paid activity through contracted IL services. The assessment of IL needs and completion of the IL plan for all foster youth ages 16 through 17 is a requirement. The IL checklist is also required to be in every service record prior to the date the youth is expected to exit from care.

A great deal of attention is paid to the need to recruit permanent families for older youth in foster care. The Children's Administration sponsored adolescent permanency workshops in 2 of its 6 regions this past year. The Chafee Independent Living Program sponsored a homeless prevention workshop at the annual Children's Justice Conference in 2003 in which specific recruitment techniques for permanent families for older youth in care were discussed.

The recipients of the 2002 Governor's Scholarship awards will participate as mentors and role models in the 2003 Positive Youth Development conference scheduled for July 2003.

Provide financial, housing, counseling, employment and other appropriate support and services to former foster care recipients between 18 and 20 years of age

Whenever possible, services to former foster care youth are delivered by contracted service providers. If contracted service agencies are not available, youth may still apply for transition funds through a regional Division of Children and Family Services office. Contracted private agencies develop partnerships with housing and employment agencies and help young people stay connected to supportive adults and peers. Contracted Transitional Living Programs provide the following services:

- I. Educational services, including basic literacy and computational skills training, either in local alternative public high schools or in a high school equivalency program that leads to obtaining a high school equivalency degree;
- II. Assistance in securing and maintaining safe and stable housing;

- III. Assistance and counseling related to obtaining vocational training or higher education, job readiness, job search assistance, and placement programs;
- IV. Counseling and instruction in life skills such as money management, home management, consumer skills, parenting, healthy marriages, health care, access to community resources, and transportation and housing options;
- V. Individual and group counseling; and
- VI. Networking with federal agencies and state and local organizations such as the United States Department of Labor, employment and training administration programs including the Workforce Investment Act which administers Workforce Development Councils, the Job Corps, vocational rehabilitation, volunteer programs, and housing authorities.

Eligibility for Transitional Living Services. Youth who meet the following eligibility criteria may receive Transitional Living Services, such as housing assistance (including board, rent, deposits, and utilities) and other appropriate support services to achieve self-sufficiency, including assistance with training and education designed to achieve, sustain or improve employment.

- 1) Youth has, at a minimum, one IL plan in his/her Individual Service and Safety Plan (ISSP).
- 2) Youth is between the ages of 18 to 20.
- 3) Youth is no longer in foster care at the time of any payment for housing costs.
- 4) Youth meets one or more of the following employment or educational requirements:
 - a) has a source of income;
 - b) has documented proof of actively seeking employment; or
 - c) is involved in an educational program.
- 5) Youth participates directly in developing the service plan and accepts personal responsibility for achieving independence.
- 6) Youth has submitted an application and statement of need, which have been approved by the Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) regional ILS gatekeeper.

The State has set a reasonable definition of “room and board” and provided the definition in the application:

Room and Board is defined as assistance provided to a former foster care youth between 18 and 20 in the form of payment for rent, utilities, deposits and housing costs associated with living on college campuses. Room and board or housing costs are tracked separately by CA to ensure that not more than 30% of the state's Chafee Independent Living funds are used for housing expenses. Two hundred eighty (280) former foster care recipients were served in Transitional Living Programs this past year.

STRATEGIC PLAN

*Division of Children and Family Services regions will have
Transition to Independence Programs
2004*

Section 477
(b)(2)(B)

Services to
political
subdivisions

Section 477
(b)(3)(G)

POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS

Washington State has tremendous diversity both geographically and economically. Twenty-one private agencies and sixteen tribes received Chafee Independent Living funds in federal fiscal year 2002 (FFY02 - October 2001 through September 2002) to deliver independent living services to youth in foster care and to former foster care youth.

Agreements with the Tribes regarding allocation of the Chafee Independent Living funds were reached in year 2000. Each year, a solicitation process occurs where all 32 federally recognized tribes in Washington State are given an opportunity to apply for Chafee funding. Applications are reviewed by tribal representatives and representatives from CA. To date, every tribe that has requested Chafee funds for their own IL program has received funding.

A statewide training was provided to private agencies, tribes and community stakeholders in March 2002. Education advocacy, housing development, developing youth/adult partnerships and developing transition plans were the elements of the training. Casey Family Programs co-sponsored this event.

In addition, participants of independent living programs presented at the annual Foster Parent Conference. The youth discussed their experiences in education improvement projects, community volunteer programs and transition programs.

Washington State has six Division of Children and Family Service (DCFS) regions.

Region One is located in the northeast section of the State. It is primarily a mountainous, rural region with one major metropolis that is the third largest city in the State. Region one contains eleven counties.

Region Two is located in the southeast section of the state. Its economy is a combination of agriculture and high tech. Region two has the largest Indian reservation and largest minority population. Region two includes eight counties.

Region Three is located in the northwest section of the state. This region encompasses five counties, two of which are composed of islands.

Region Four is comprised of the most populated county in the state (King County) and includes Washington's most populated city (Seattle). Region four is located in Central Puget Sound.

Region Five is located in the south central Puget Sound area and contains the second largest city (Tacoma) in the state. Region five is comprised of two counties joined by a bridge across Puget Sound

Region Six is located in the southwestern section of the state and encompasses twelve counties.

All six DCFS regions have an IL Coordinator whose duties include on-going collaboration with the CA IL program manager to develop and implement the Chafee Foster Care Independence Program. The regional IL coordinators, and the IL program manager meet at least quarterly to address problem areas, coordinate strategies for development and plan statewide IL functions.

Section 477
(b)(2)(C)

ACHIEVING INDEPENDENCE AT VARIOUS AGES

Washington State developed criteria for the Chafee Independent Living Program based on the legislative requirement to identify those youth likely to remain in foster care until age 18.

Section 477
(b)(2)(E)

Youth who are likely to remain in foster care until age 18 are identified in the chart below. These youth must receive assistance to gain the independent living skills necessary to move toward a successful transition to adulthood in a developmentally appropriate way.

ELIGIBLE YOUTH "LIKELY TO REMAIN IN FOSTER CARE UNTIL AGE 18"

AGE	LEGAL STATUS	FOCUS OF CASE PLANNING	SERVICES AVAILABLE
13 to 15	Legally Free Dependent	Education Stability and Achievement	Kidscreen Passport Community and School Resources
16 to 17	Legally Free Dependent Dependency Guardianship	IL plan in ISSP	Contracted IL programs Support Services: SSPS 3901
17 to 18	Legally Free Dependent Dependency Guardianship Child in Need of Services (CHINS)	IL plan in ISSP Transition planning for Housing Employment Education	Contracted IL programs Support Services: SSPS 3901

TRANSITIONAL LIVING PROGRAM ELIGIBLE PERSONS

AGE	ELIGIBILITY	FOCUS OF SERVICE DELIVERY	SERVICES AVAILABLE
18 to 20	Legal Custody with the Department dismissed at age 18	Completion of Transition Plan: Safe & Stable Housing Employment Completion of HS or GED	Contracted Transitional Living Programs

Youth without family support are the primary target for referral to IL resources.

As the chart above indicates, the CA has divided the independent living program into three subdivisions.

- ◆ School stability, advocacy and achievement are the primary focus in service delivery to the 13 to 15 year old population.
- ◆ Life skills training, job attainment, school achievement or alternative programs are the focus of service delivery to the 16 to 18 year old population.
- ◆ Transition to independence, including employment, education and/or housing services, is the focus of service delivery to the 18 to 21 year old population.

PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR INVOLVEMENT

This past year, the IL program manger facilitated at least one community development meeting in each of the six regions. These meetings provide technical assistance to IL providers and child welfare staff and are intended to facilitate community collaboration among both the public and private sectors.

The Washington State Institute for Public Policy evaluates programs under the direction of the legislature and provides regular reports. Some of these research reports have led to State legislation aimed at improving services for older youth in foster care.

Each year a solicitation process occurs welcoming our tribal partners to request Chafee funds to deliver IL services to youth in tribal custody. Funds are allocated to regional, contracted IL providers and tribes based on the number of IL eligible youth in foster care in state and tribal custody.

The Chafee IL Program sponsors a statewide, annual workshop for contracted providers, tribal partners and other private and public stakeholders. This workshop provides on-going training and support around improving the program and also serves as a forum to facilitate collaboration and solicit ideas.

FAIR AND EQUITABLE TREATMENT OF BENEFIT RECIPIENTS

Standardized eligibility criteria (page 6) were developed to ensure fair and equitable treatment. The CAMIS computer system provides quarterly reports regarding IL eligible youth in the Washington State foster care system. These reports are compared to quarterly reports submitted by IL contracted providers and tribes with IL program agreements. Efforts are constantly made to provide consistent, on-going training to these entities and child welfare social workers to ensure that every youth that is eligible for services is referred and that outreach services engage eligible youth in services.

<p>Section 477 (b)(2)(D)</p>	<p>Public Review and Comment: This plan was submitted for public review and comment for 30 days from April 15, 2003 through May 15, 2003.</p> <p>SERVICES PROVIDED AND ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED:</p> <p>In Washington State, the DSHS, CA has designated the six regional Divisions of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and our tribal partners as the entities to provide IL services to eligible youth. Each region has an IL regional coordinator that coordinates directly with the state IL program manager. Regional coordinators, in collaboration with regional contract managers, have responsibility for local contract monitoring. Tribes that receive Chafee funding and enter into a program agreement with CA agree to develop IL services in accordance with the Chafee legislation.</p> <p>Services are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Service to the 13 to 15 year-old population was the primary area of expansion in 2002. Services and activities include a study of the educational well-being of 40 legally free youth between the ages of 13 and 15 and collection and electronic recording of their education histories, tutoring and educational advocacy services, and a work group between the Children's Administration and the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction to explore strategies for improving the educational performance of youth in foster care. In addition, over 400 foster parents in Washington State received training in educational advocacy.
<p>Section 477 (b)(2)(E)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Services to the 16 to 18 year-old population include: skill building classes in communication, money management, job seeking skills, resume development, completion of financial aid applications, youth advocacy and citizenship, personal safety and appropriate recreation, and utilizing public transportation. This area will be the primary area of expansion and improved service delivery in the upcoming year. ◆ Services to former foster youth between the ages of 18 and 21 continued to grow and improve in 2002. Four additional Transitional Living Programs were added and services to this population increased by more than 100%. <p>Five comprehensive goals were established in March 2000 by over 300 community stakeholders and child welfare employees. These goals continue to serve as the foundation of the Washington State Chafee Foster Care Independence Program.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goal number one: <i>Youth will demonstrate an understanding of and connection To available community supports, resources and safety nets, as well as develop, practice and demonstrate life skills.</i>

Contracted Services are available for youth ages 16 to 21 who are likely to remain in foster care until age 18 or left foster care because they turned 18. Services include outreach, assessment of needs, individualized plan development, mentoring, counseling, advocacy and transition services. The implementation of contracted transition services helps to ensure a safety net for youth that are exiting from foster care and promotes connections to supportive adults. Greater emphasis will be placed on monitoring tangible outcomes from services provided and affording youth with opportunities to practice skills prior to leaving care throughout 2003-2004.

- **Goal number two:** *All foster youth will have opportunities to prepare for and access resources necessary to secure meaningful meaningful training and employment.*

CA continues to strengthen our partnerships with the Casey Family Programs. The Beginning Employment and Training for Adulthood (BETA), Graduates Ready to Excel in America's Technology (GREAT), and Computer Resource Labs are three examples of resources available to foster youth and former foster youth in Washington State. The Treehouse Program is a private, non profit agency that provides tutoring to children in foster care in eight schools within King County and the Seattle area. In addition, contracts with tutoring programs such as Sylvan Learning Center help youth achieve their educational goals.

Governor Gary Locke established the Governor's Scholarship Fund for former foster youth in 2001. The Governor's Scholarship Fund is administered by the Washington Education Foundation and is renewed annually. Community stakeholders and representatives from the CA serve on the advisory board.

- **Goal number three:** *Create an integrated system in which each young person who is or has been in foster care can/will participate in a goal oriented, individually tailored, continuous educational program which meets each young person's educational needs.*

A project between TeamChild (a legal advocacy group) and Casey Family Programs resulted in the development of the Education Advocacy manual for caregivers of foster children. Four hundred (400) foster parents in Washington State received this training in 2002. The training has also been provided to service providers and child welfare social work staff.

Data collection methods of CA are also being improved to better track the educational and vocational accomplishments of youth exiting the state's foster care system as well as to obtain and track educational information throughout a child's placement in foster care.

The Washington State CA and the OSPI began strategic planning meetings in May 2002, to address school placement stability for foster children and plans to improve

the educational outcomes of children in the foster care system. These strategic planning meetings continued throughout the summer and fall of 2002 and led to the establishment of the education improvement oversight committee.

- **Goal number four:** *Help youth develop meaningful relationships after leaving foster care. Give youth the opportunity and support to define, develop and maintain a spectrum of significant adult relationships that empower and sustain a successful transition to and throughout adulthood.*

The Children's Administration participates in the Stuart Foundation Youth Permanency Project. The Youth Permanency Project focuses on strengthening practice and policy in order to ensure permanency for older children and youth. The Stuart Foundation sponsors annual convenings to learn about best practice models and develop strategies for implementation.

Contracted IL providers throughout Washington State are paid for mentoring youth from age 16 to age 21 if a youth remains involved with the program. In addition, the implementation of the Transition to Independence Programs allows for the continuous connection of former foster youth to supportive adults. *The CA Practice and Procedure* manual was revised in October 2002, and includes an IL checklist to be completed with every youth prior to exiting the foster care system. The checklist is intended to provide assurance that every youth has the necessary documents they will need for adulthood, understands how to access necessary services, and can identify at least one adult support person to turn to if need be.

- **Goal number five:** *All youth in or exiting foster care will have access to transitional services leading to safe, affordable housing options within their community of choice.*

CA continues to refine our Transitional Living Programs which provide room and board/housing (rent, utilities, deposits and payment of housing on college campuses) assistance, case management services, crisis intervention, mentoring, and ongoing life skill training. Provision of case management services is particularly key as CA has learned that such services enhance the chance of these youth being served by community action agencies.

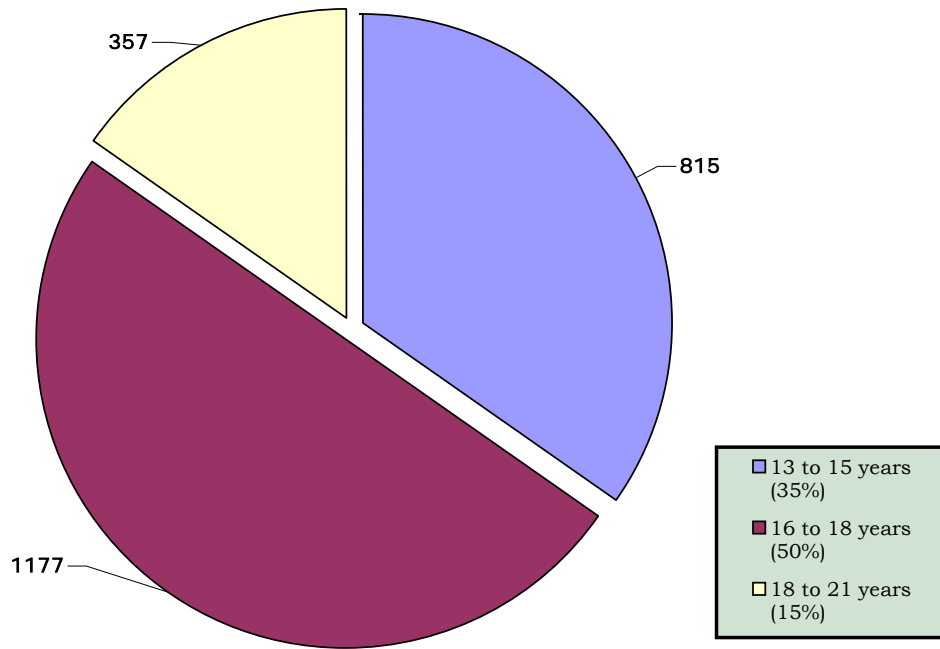
The Children's Administration belongs to the Washington State Coalition for the Homeless and participates in annual Housing and Urban Development (HUD) sponsored events.

PURPOSES FOR WHICH FUNDS WERE EXPENDED:

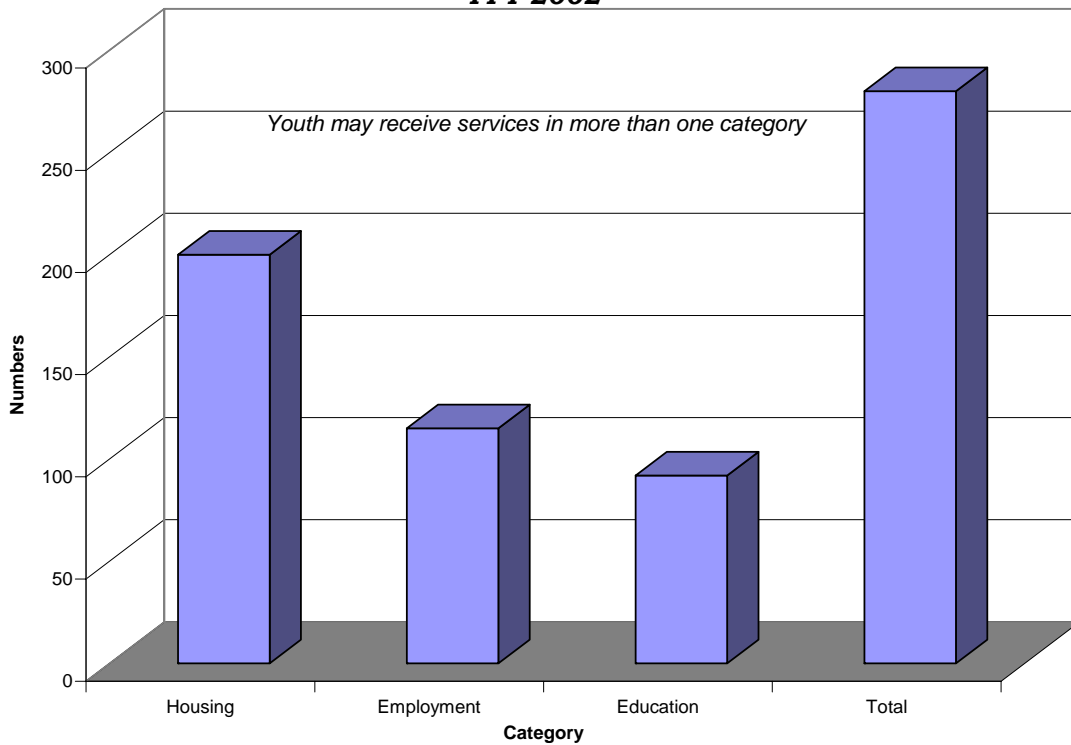
- ◆ Program manager salaries
- ◆ Funds for tribal services (tribal set-aside)
- ◆ Contracted independent living programs
 - ◆ Transition to Independence programs (30% allocated to housing)
- ◆ Annual workshops
- ◆ Graduation ceremonies
- ◆ Education Improvement Projects
- ◆ Research project (Foster Youth Transition Study)
- ◆ Travel
- ◆ Curriculum materials and supplies
- ◆ Dues (NILA, NW Network)
- ◆ Newsletter

The following charts outline service delivery to IL eligible youth as reported by contracted providers and tribal partners in federal fiscal year 2002.

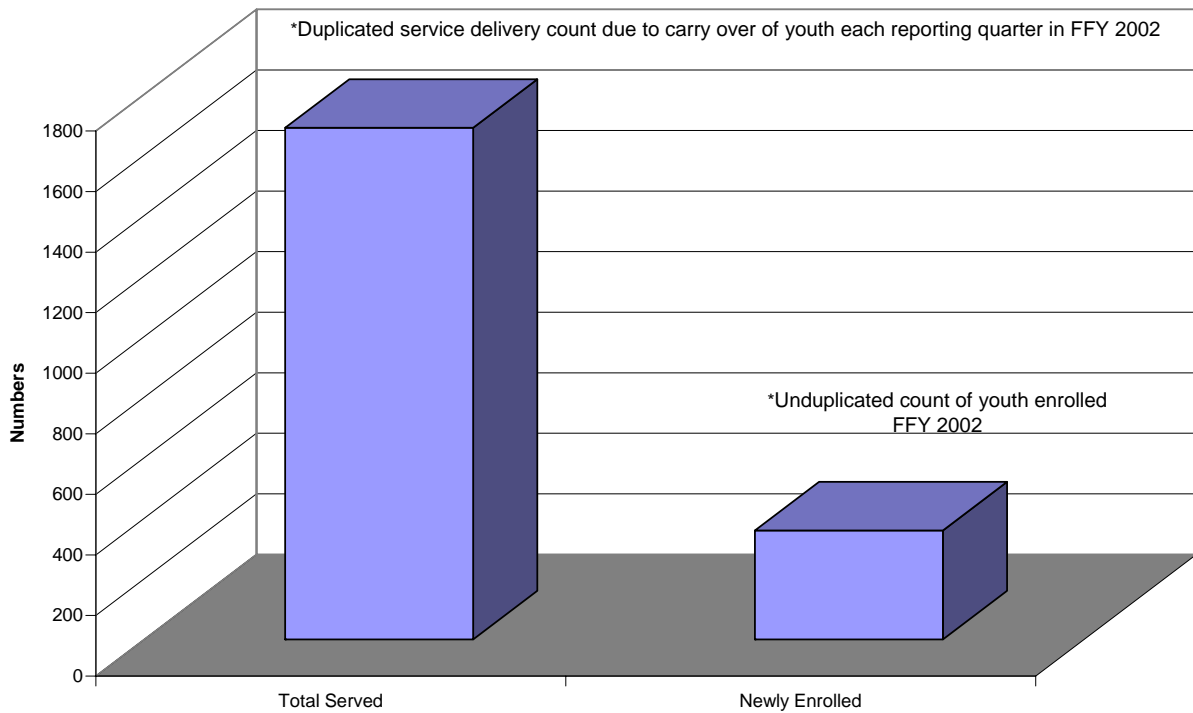
**IL Eligible Population
January 2003**



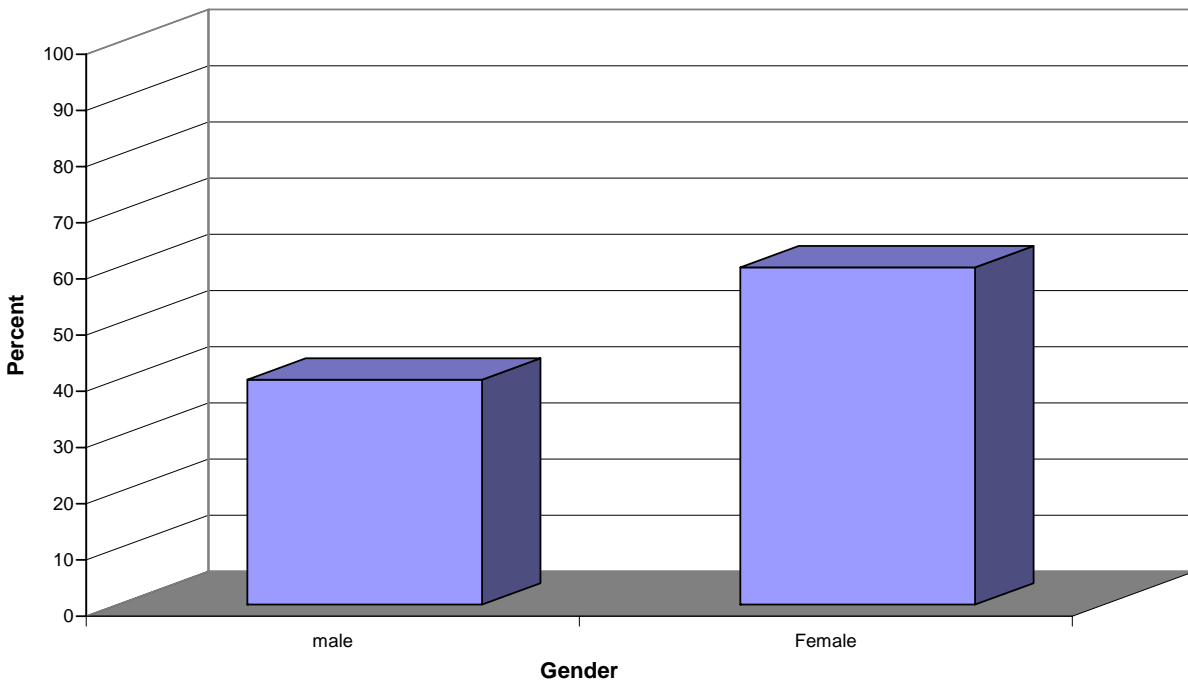
**Services Provided to Former Foster Care Recipients
(ages 18 to 21)
FFY 2002**



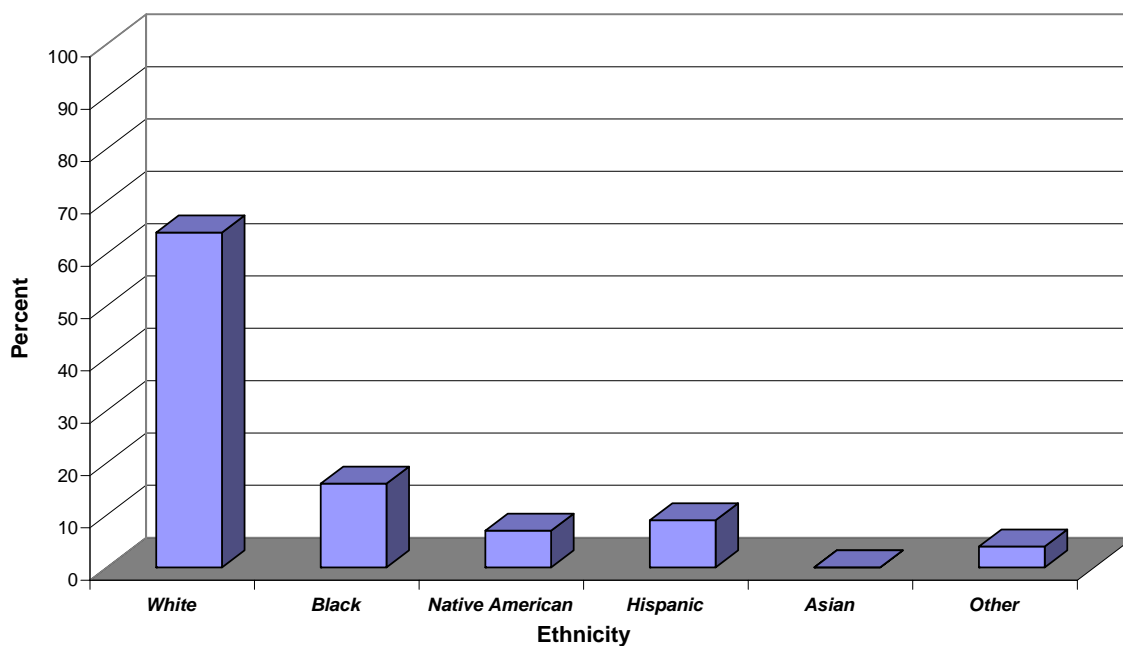
**Youth (ages 16 to 18) Served
FFY 2002**



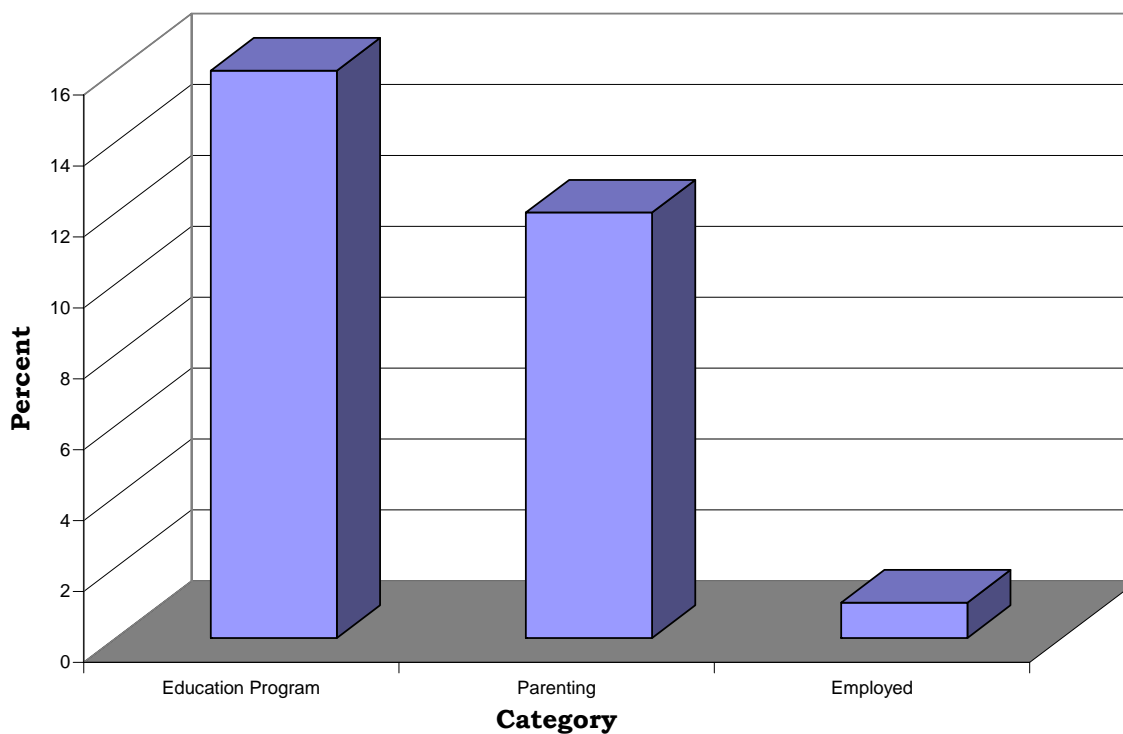
**Gender of IL Population Served
FFY 2002**



***Ethnicity of IL Population Served
FFY02***



***Characterisitics of IL Population Served
FFY 2002***



**Education and Training Voucher Program
Amendment to the
Washington State Chafee
Independent Living Skills Program**

July, 2003

In Washington State, the Department of Social and Health Services, Children's Administration (CA) administers, supervises and oversees the Title IV-E program and the Chafee, Foster Care Independence Program. CA will also administer the newly authorized Education and Training Voucher Program (ETV). Contact information for the CA program manager is as follows:

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Part I: ETV Program Plan Narrative

Describe how the State will establish, expand or strengthen its post secondary educational assistance program to achieve the purpose of the ETV program (section 477 (a)(6) of the Act) to:

a) Help youth make the transition to self-sufficiency

Services to former foster care youth in Washington State are delivered via a contract amendment to the Independent Living (IL) contract. These contracted programs are known as ***Transitional Living Programs (TLPs)***. Washington State currently has seven TLPs in place with a goal of increasing to ten programs by 2004. The contracted TLPs serve former foster care youth (ages 18 to 21) in the areas of access to housing, education, vocational services, employment training and placement and access to medical services.

Education and Training Voucher funds will be used to expand and enhance Washington's service delivery around education and training. The TLP contracts will be revised to incorporate specific outcome based procedures for contractors as well as improved tracking and reporting requirements. The TLP providers will build upon currently established collaborations with their community-based vocation and training programs, community colleges and institutions of higher education. In addition, the Children's Administration IL program manager has developed partnerships with the Washington State Higher Education Coordinating Board and the Washington Education Foundation which manages the

Governor's College Scholarship program for former foster care youth. Our TLP contractors and community partners will form an ongoing system of collaboration and coordination to ensure service delivery to the highest number of former foster care recipients and to minimize duplication of work.

In 2002 and 2003 the Washington State legislature passed education improvement initiatives for children in foster care. A number of education improvement pilot projects are currently underway. These pilots allow the state to study interventions that lead to positive outcomes. We are confident that our focus on education improvement at the early stages of adolescence will reduce drop out rates and help youth remain motivated and interested in pursuing their education goals.

b) Help youth receive the education, training and services necessary to obtain employment

A Chafee Independent Living data base was created in 2003 to allow child welfare supervisors and social workers to track Chafee eligible youth. The data base will allow CA to begin transition planning for every 17 year old in care. Transition planning provides young people access to their local TLP prior to exit from foster care. A formal transition plan for every young person in foster care provides a safety net and ongoing connection to a support system upon exit from foster care. An application procedure for TLP is established. A new section to the application will be created to incorporate specific education and training goals of the young person.

The goal of Washington's Chafee IL program is to increase employment training and placement opportunities for youth while they are still in foster care. Our education improvement initiatives support this goal and will increase the likelihood that youth exiting from foster care at age 18 are better prepared to enter post-secondary education and training programs.

Describe how the State will design and conduct its program to meet the conditions outlined in section 477(b)(3)(J) and section 477(i). Describe the methods the State will use to: (1) ensure that the total amount of educational assistance to a youth under this and any other Federal assistance does not exceed the total cost of attendance; and (2) to avoid duplication of benefits under this and any other Federal assistance program.

Transitional Living Program (TLP) contractors will receive training in the areas of assisting young people with financial aid applications, connecting young people to mentors and other support systems available at higher education and training programs and establishing partnerships with vocation, training and college institutions. Coordination between TLP contractors and both the Washington Education Foundation and the Washington State Higher Education Coordinating Board will enable former foster care recipients to have access to the maximum amount of financial assistance (e.g., federal student financial aid programs, grants, scholarships, etc.) available to them. Moreover, DSHS will approve costs for higher education that shall not exceed the lesser of \$5000 or the total cost of attendance as defined in section 472

of the Higher Education Act, thereby allowing ETV funds to leverage other sources of funds and give us the opportunity to provide special assistance to youth with learning disabilities and other barriers to education and employment success.

A hand-book will be developed to accompany the TLP contracts which will clearly outline the requirements for use of the ETV and Chafee funds, the limitations of ETV funds and avenues for obtaining non-Chafee funds, such as Governor Gary Locke's Scholarship Program.

Tracking and monitoring procedures will be put in place in order to prevent duplication of benefits. The initial procedures will consist of:

- regional databases listing the service providers and youths in each, respective, region detailing how the funds are being allocated;
- headquarter based database detailing the spending statewide;
- quarterly cross referencing of these databases to ensure accuracy and maintain performance goals; and
- development of action steps designed to rectify any discrepancies within the databases.

Briefly describe how all political subdivisions in the State are served by the program (section 477(b)(2)(B)).

Washington State has tremendous diversity both geographically and economically. Sixteen private agencies and twenty three tribes presently hold Chafee Independent Living contracts to serve sixteen to twenty-one year old youth in foster care and those that have recently exited from foster care.

Agreements with the Tribes regarding allocation of the Chafee Independent Living funds were reached in year 2000. The Education and Training Voucher funds will be made available to tribes in the same manner as Chafee IL funds.

Statewide training is provided annually to private agencies, tribes and community partners. The 2003 statewide, Independent Living conference will be held July 31, 2003 in Wenatchee, Washington. Participants of the conference will develop community-based teams. These teams will review the original goals established for the Washington State Chafee IL program, develop action steps for completion of the original goals and establish new goals for program improvement. The newly authorized Education and Training Voucher program will be announced at the conference

Washington State has six Division of Children and Family Service (DCFS) regions.

Region One is located in the northeast section of the State. This Region currently has one TLP and will add another by 2004.

Region Two is located in the southeast section of the state. This Region has two TLPs.

Region Three is located in the northwest section of the state. This Region will establish a TLP before the end of 2003.

Region Four is comprised of the most populated county in the state (King County) and includes Washington's most populated city (Seattle). Region four has one Chafee TLP, a large, privately funded transition program for former foster youth and a federal TLP.

Region Five is located in the south central Puget Sound area and contains the second largest city (Tacoma) in the state. Region five has one TLP.

Region Six is located in the southwestern section of the state and encompasses twelve counties. This Region has two TLPs and will add another TLP by 2004.

Describe how and what various categories of eligible youth (youth aging out of care, adopted youth, former foster care youth qualified for assistance at ages 21-23) are to be served.

Washington State statute, administrative code and child welfare policy provides for service delivery to former foster care youth up to age 21. The description of Chafee IL eligible youth and focus of service delivery and case planning is provided in the chart below:

Chafee Independent Living

AGE	<i>Legal Status</i>	Focus of Case Planning	Services Available
13 through 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Legally Free ◆ Dependent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Education Stability and Achievement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Kidscreen ◆ Passport ◆ Community and School Resources
16 to 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Legally Free ◆ Dependent ◆ Dependency - Guardianship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ IL plan in ISSP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Contracted IL programs ◆ Support Services: SSPS 3901
17 to 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Legally Free ◆ Dependent ◆ Dependency - Guardianship ◆ Child in Need of Services (CHINS) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ IL plan in ISSP ◆ Transition planning for ◆ Housing ◆ Employment ◆ Education ◆ Medical 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Contracted IL programs ◆ Support Services: SSPS 3901

**Transitional Living Programs
Eligible Persons**

Age	Eligibility	Focus of Service Delivery	Services Available
18 through 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Legal Custody with the Department dismissed at age 18 ◆ Has had an IL plan in ISSP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Completion of Transition Plan: ◆ Safe and Stable Housing ◆ Employment ◆ Completion of Educational goals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Contracted Transitional Living Programs

Child welfare practice and policy will be changed to include all youth adopted after age 16 as eligible for ETV funds. The Children's Administration Case and Management Information System (CAMIS) tracks permanency information. The IL data base will be adjusted to incorporate tracking of all youth placed for adoption at and after age 16.

Part I: Attachment B

**STATE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S
CERTIFICATION
for the
EDUCATION AND TRAINING VOUCHER PROGRAM
Chafee Foster Care Independence Program**

As Chief Executive Officer of the State of Washington, I certify that the State has in effect and is operating a Statewide program relating to Foster Care Independent Living and that the following provisions will be implemented as of September 30, 2003:

- (1) The State will comply with the conditions specified in subsection 477(i).
- (2) The State has described methods it will use to:
 - ensure that the total amount of educational assistance to a youth under this and any other Federal assistance program does not exceed the total cost of attendance; and
 - avoid duplication of benefits under this and any other Federal assistance program,

as defined in section 477(3)(b)(J).



Signature of Chief Executive Officer
Governor, State of Washington



Date

Part II: Attachment C

**Part II - FY 2003
ETV Program Request for Funds**

Federal Funds Requested \$662,901.00

State Match Amount \$ 165,725

Sources: *Responsible Living Skills Program*

Request for Re-allotted Funds, (if available) \$ 0

I certify that I am authorized to submit for the State of Washington, the FY 2003 and 2004 application for ETV Program funds.

Application submitted by:


Name LaVerne Lamoureux

Title Director, Program & Policy, Children's Administration

Signature _____

Date 8/8/03

Approval Date: _____

Signature - ACF Regional Administrator _____